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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT

US Prisoners held in TORGAU Penitentiary

AREA REPORTED ON

FROM (Agency)

7050th AISW (USAFE)

TORGAU, SZG

DATE OF INFORMATION

DATE OF REPORT 27 - 29 Oct 1954

EVALUATION C-3

PREPARED BY (Officer)

Jan 50 - Jan 54

CLOWER F ASHLEY, Lt Col. USAF
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

219451

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left, Begin text of report on AF

SOURCE was inmate in STRAFVOLLZUGSANSTALT (Penitentiary) TORGAU (5134N-1300E) from Jan 1950 through Jan 1954, serving a 10-year hard labor sentence as a political prisoner. He was tried and convicted by a Soviet Military Tribunal in ZWICKAU (5044N-1230E) as all other political cases in the penitentiary which was taken over by the VOPO (People's Police) from the Soviet MVD at the beginning of 1950. All info furnished below as based on SOURCE's own observations, unless otherwise stated.

US PRISONERS HELD IN TORGAU PENITENTIARY:
According to SOURCE's recollections two US nationals were held in this penitentiary at least since some time in 1952. He added that an earlier date was highly probable, but felt that he could not be certain. He never had the opportunity to speak to either one of them, but knew from fellow prisoners that one was kept in solitary confinement, whereas the other one was housed in a cell block located in the N wing of the building, together with other German prisoners. He frequently saw them during the daily exercise in the prison yard when the one in alleged solitary confinement was separated from other prisoners. It was said that both prisoners had a fair knowledge of the German language, but it could not be established whether they were civilians or military personnel. Both were clad in clothes issued by the prison adminis-SOURCE estimated their age at 22 years. One was 5'5" tall, the other 5'8", and the smaller one of the two was slim, whereas the other was broad shouldered. They both had cark hair, and the taller prisoner known as "JONNY" walked rather staltedly, whereas the one in solitary confinement walked very quickly taking short steps. SOURCE stated that he remembered these characteristics because they were so conspicuously different to other prisoners. Both prisoners were still held in Jan 1054 when SOURCH was released.

> Q. 45 CLOWER F ASHLEY Lt Col, USAF Commander 7056th AISS

INCLS.

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